

Agenda

8:00

Registration

9:00 – 9:30

Welcome and the National School Choice Environment

MODERATOR

Doug Mesecar, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Office of Innovation and Improvement
U.S. Department of Education

WELCOME

Valarie Smith, Secretary's Regional Representative
U.S. Department of Education

THE FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Chris Bayer, Acting Director
Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
U.S. Department of Education

9:30 – 10:30

Expanding Parental Options to Choose Charter Schools

MODERATOR

Nelson Smith, President
National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

PANELISTS

June Brown, Founder
The Laboratory Charter School of Communication and Languages

James Merriman, CEO
New York City Center for Charter School Excellence

James Verrilli, Co-Founder and Principal
North Star Academy Charter School of Newark

10:30 – 10:45

Break

10:45 – 11:45

Choice in Action – Charter Schools

MODERATOR

Gerard Robinson, President
Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO)

PANELISTS

Marilyn Calo, Principal
Family Life Charter School

Drew Martin,
KIPP: Team Academy

12:00 – 1:00

Luncheon

KEYNOTE

The Reverend Reginald T. Jackson, Executive Director
Black Ministers Council

Doug Mesecar, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Office of Innovation and Improvement
U.S. Department of Education

1:15 – 2:15

**Expanding Parental Options to Choose Private Schools –
Choice Programs in the States**

MODERATOR

Robert Enlow, Executive Director
The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice

PANELISTS

Derrell Bradford, Deputy Director
Excellent Education for Everyone (E3)

Tim Mulhearn, President
United New Yorkers for Choice in Education

Darla Romfo, President
Children's Scholarship Fund

2:15 – 3:15

Choice in Action – Private Schools

MODERATOR

Andrew LeFevre, Executive Director
REACH Alliance & REACH Foundation

PANELISTS

Seth Cohen, Headmaster
Spruce Hill Christian School

Christina DiMichele, Associate Director
Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

3:15 – 3:30

Break

3:30 – 4:30

Choice in Action – Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

MODERATOR

Valarie Smith, Secretary's Regional Representative
U.S. Department of Education

PANELISTS

Sheila Evans-Tranum, Associate Commissioner
New York State Education Department

Duane Ingram, Vice President of Programs and Planning
Urban League of Philadelphia

Mary McElroy
Archdiocese of Newark

4:30

Networking